(d) The Department of Justice, *vide* letter dated 25.6.2002 has requested all State Governments for taking necessary steps towards the compliance of the Court's directives. As regards directives to be complied by the Central Government in respect of Union Territories for which it is administratively responsible, an I.A. has been filed in the Supreme Court on 12.7.2002 praying to modify its direction for increase in the judge strength to 50 judges per 10 lakh people and permit the Union Government to determine the appropriate judge strength based on relevant factors including pendency of cases. Further, an affidavit has been filed in the Supreme Court on 28.8.2002 praying that the increase in judge strength in the UTs be allowed based on a decision by the Competent Authority after receipt of recommendation from the Expert Committee. The matter is pending with the Supreme Court.

Eligibility for Judicial Services Examination

2569. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is compulsory for a fresh law graduate to get himself registered with the Bar Council in order to become eligible for appearing in Judicial Services Examination; and

(b) whether the policy in this regard is uniform in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This position may alter when all High Courts and respective State Governments comply with the directions of the Supreme Court contained in its judgement of 21st March, 2003 in All India Judges Association case in which it has *inter alia* directed as follows:

> "...the High Courts and the State Governments to amend their rules so as to enable a fresh law graduate who may not even have put in even three years of practice, to be eligible to compete and enter the Judicial Service. We, however, recommend that a fresh recruit in to the Judicial Service should be imparted with training of not less than one year, preferably two years."